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NSCI 300: Science and Technology

Spring 2020

Spinning assignment

Buy or make a drop spindle. These are relatively inexpensive (<\$10 on Amazon or Ebay) or can be made with somewhat standard or easy to buy materials (a wooden chop stick or dowel, something to weight the bottom, an eye hook). You will also need a small to moderate amount of roving, which also can be ordered from Amazon, Etsy or other online stores. An instructional video showing you how to use your drop spindle will be posted on Blackboard, along with a demonstration of wheel spinning and factory spinning. You will need to try spinning with a drop spindle. This is a required assignment. You may also wish to weave, knit or crochet a simple piece from your spun yarn (not required, but contributes to a better grade), in which case you will need a small loom, knitting needles, or a crochet hook. Knitting needles can also be made from wooden chopsticks and something to block the non-pointed end. Instructions and/or instructional videos will be posted on Blackboard. You should weave, knit or crochet a rectangular pin, or best yet a scarf, from the yarn you spun. Patterns will be posted on Blackboard, or find your own. Wear these to the Election on 21-May!

To complete this project, you will need 3 things. Two of them, you can either buy or make. If you want to make them, links to instructions are posted below and on Blackboard. If you want to buy them, they are all available on Amazon, Ebay, Etsy, and probably lots of other places. These are just a few examples.

1) Roving

This is wool that has been removed from the sheep, washed, carded to make the fibers parallel, and drawn into small tubes. It is ready to be spun. It may also have been dyed, that is up to you (you can also dye it yourself, if you like. I'll give you instructions for that, too). Examples are in the range of \$2.50, though some (not all) also have shipping charges.

https://smile.amazon.com/Corriedale-Assorted-Felting-Spinning-Natural/dp/B018YJJ1LM/ref=sr_1_11?dchild=1&keywords=wool+roving&qid=1586206523&refinements=p_36%3A2638326011&rnid=2638325011&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-11

https://www.amazon.com/WEKA-Roving-Spinning-Felting-Materials/dp/B07KG4RJ7B/ref=sr_1_9?dchild=1&keywords=wool+roving&qid=1586206523&refinement_s=p_36%3A2638326011&rnid=2638325011&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-9

https://www.amazon.com/FidgetKute-Genuine-Roving-Felting-Materials/dp/B07WC9L1XN/ref=sr_1_15?dchild=1&keywords=wool+roving&qid=1586206523&refinements=p_36%3A2638326011&rnid=2638325011&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-15

https://www.amazon.com/Clover-Natural-Wool-Roving-Mint/dp/B001AGWQDC/ref=sr_1_14?dchild=1&keywords=wool+roving&qid=1586206523&refinements=p_36%3A2638326011&rnid=2638325011&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-14

https://www.amazon.com/Wistyrria-Editions-12-Inch-0-25-Ounce-Harvest/dp/B00CH9M7W6/ref=sr_1_10?dchild=1&keywords=wool+roving&qid=1586206523&refinements=p_36%3A2638326011&rnid=2638325011&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-10

and lots more, just on Amazon.

2) Drop spindle

This is what you will use to make your roving into yarn. A video with instructions about how to use it, and some links to others, are posted on Blackboard. I do recommend using one with an eye hook if you have one or can get it... it makes it work a lot better. The How to Use video shows a bottom whorl drop spindle, with the eye hook on the opposite end of the pole from the whorl (used both as a weight and to keep your finished yarn on the spindle).

Instructions on how to make your own can be found at:

https://www.lahottee.info/E_MakingSpindle.php

<https://www.instructables.com/id/Make-An-Awesome-Drop-Spindle/>

<https://spinoffmagazine.com/how-to-make-a-drop-spindle/>

If you want to make your own, but don't have the materials listed in these particular instructions, feel free to search for others. Here are some examples of ones you can buy:

[Happy Classy Mini Pocket Drop Spindle Maple Bottom Whorl 6" Length](#)

[Happy Classy Drop Spindle Bottom Whorl Yarn, Spinning Clear Smooth Finish, 1.8 oz.](#)

[Happy Classy Drop Spindle Maple Spinning 10" Bottom Whorl 12 Pack](#)

https://www.amazon.com/Happy-Classy-Spindle-Bottom-Spinning/dp/B01I8TCBK6/ref=sr_1_1_sspa?dchild=1&keywords=drop+spindle+bottom+whorl&qid=1586206438&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-1-spons&psc=1&spLa=ZW5jcnlwdGVkUXVhbGlmaWVyPUEyR1VBN0xPUUJJN1dPJMVuY3J5cHRIZElkPUeWUjcjZMDlXMUhKUjI3N1RUSVEwOCZlbmNyeXB0ZWZlZkPUeWUOTlXNjY0M05IUFA0SkVOT0RINCZ3aWRnZXROYW1lPXNwX2F0ZiZhY3Rpb249Y2xpY2tSZWRpcmVjdCZkb05vdExvZ0NsaWNrPXRydWU=

https://www.amazon.com/Happy-Classy-Spindle-Bottom-Spinning/dp/B01I8TCBK6/ref=sr_1_4?dchild=1&keywords=drop+spindle+bottom+whorl&qid=1586206438&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-4

This one comes with the spindle and roving: https://www.amazon.com/Happy-Classy-Spindle-Premium-Natural/dp/B01FQ12R58/ref=sr_1_17?dchild=1&keywords=drop+spindle+bottom+whorl&qid=1586206438&s=arts-crafts&sr=1-17

I also plan to post a video (and you can look them up on youtube) showing spinning wheel spinning, but as the wheels usually cost \$100s, I don't recommend that you try that for this class.

3) Something to make the yarn into fabric.

If you can't get any of these devices, you can finger-knit. I'll post instructions on how to do that at some point, but it is VERY limited. You can make something up to 4 stitches wide only, and it will be a very loose knit.

Otherwise, try **ONE** of these options:

Crochet hook (lots of how-to videos on youtube, or ask me to help)

Best 12 Crochet Hook Set with Ergonomic Handles for Extreme Comfort, Aluminium Crochet Hooks 2-8mm Size, Can Use with All Patterns and Yarns

Knitting needles (lots and lots of how-to videos on youtube or ask me to help)

Boye 14-Inch Aluminum Single Point Knitting Needles, Size 9

Balene II Single Point Knitting Needles 10 Inch - Size 17

Yongrow Knitting Needles, 80 cm Household DIY Crafts Circular Stainless Steel (Number 7-4.75mm)

Weaving loom (some how-to videos on youtube, but if you buy a commercial one, it will come with instructions. If you buy one on Etsy, the craftspeople who sell there are usually very happy to answer questions & help. But looms tend to be a little more individual/variable than knitting needles or crochet hooks)

Inlovearts 23.6"H x 21.3"W Weaving Loom with Stand Wooden Multi-Craft Weaving Loom Arts & Crafts, Extra-Large Frame, Develops Creativity and Motor Skills Weaving Frame Loom with Stand for Beginners

NUOBESTY Kids DIY Weaving Loom Toy Wooden Yarn Knitting Loom Hand Ability Training Weaving Machine Intellectual Development Toys for Boys Girls

Weaving Looms Wooden Weaving Loom Kit - Woven DIY Suit Wooden Multifunctional Loom

PandaHall Elite 1 Set Wood Knitting Weaving Looms with Yarns Warp Weft Adjusting Rods Combs and Shuttles with Detailed Instructions